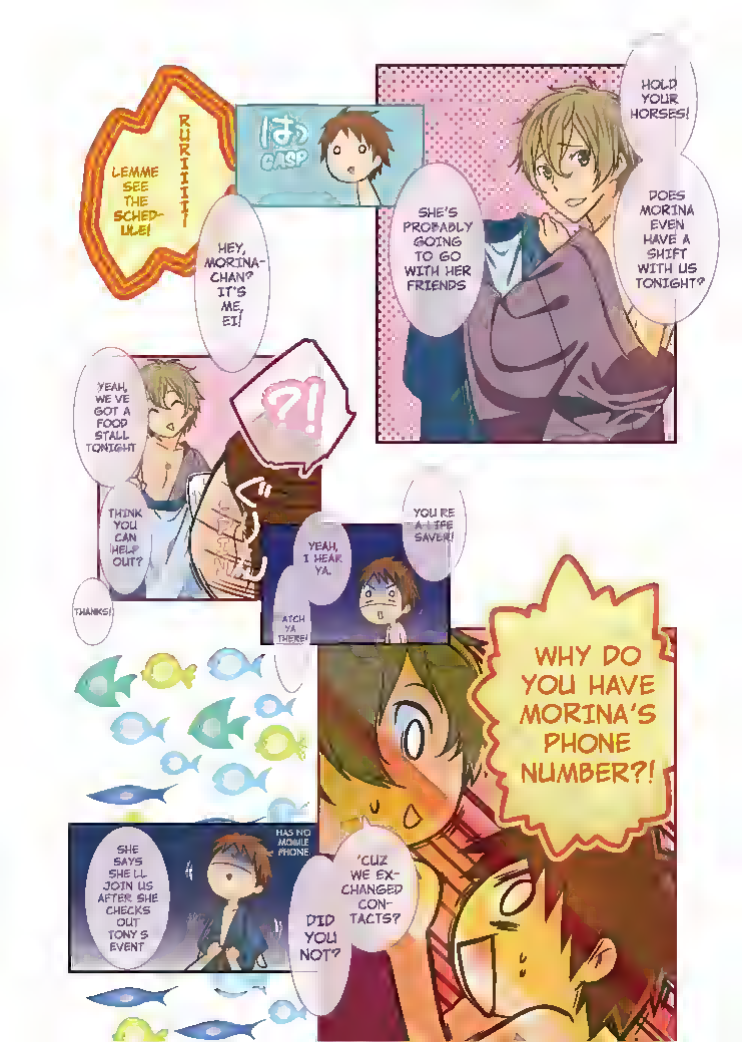
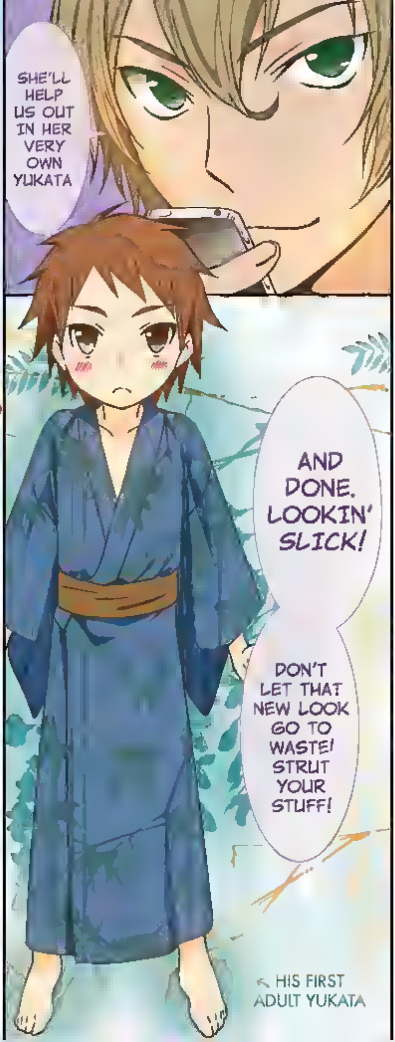

WHAT'RE YOU TALKING ABOUT, LITTLE MAN?
EVERY YEAR, FOR THE SHOPPING ARCADE'S FESTIVAL FESTA GOES OUT THERE WITH A FOOD STALL
FESTIVALS ARE THE ONE TIME WHEN PEOPLE UNDERSTAND IF WE OVERCHARGE A BIT SO WE CAN MAKE A KILLING!
SO LET'S GET WORKING!
EH?
HALF AN HOUR?
YEAH!
YURI'S GIVEN ME PERMISSION TO JUST GO HANG OUT WITH MORINA FOR HALF AN HOUR!
SOMETHING THAT'LL MAKE MORINA HAPPY WITHIN THAT HALF HOUR?
DO YOU HAVE A KILLER TECHNIQUE?


HOLD YOUR HORSES!
DOES MORINA EVEN HAVE A SHIFT WITH US TONIGHT?
SHE'S PROBABLY GOING TO GO WITH HER FRIENDS
はっ GASP
RURIIIII!
LEMME SEE THE SCHED-ULE!
HEY, MORINA-CHAN? IT'S ME, EI!
?!
YEAH, WE'VE GOT A FOOD STALL TONIGHT
THINK YOU CAN HELP OUT?
THANKS!
YEAH, I HEAR YA.
YOU'RE A LIFE SAVER!
ATCH YA THERE!
WHY DO YOU HAVE MORINA'S PHONE NUMBER?!
'CUZ WE EX-CHANGED CON-TACTS?
DID YOU NOT?
HAS NO MOBILE PHONE
SHE SAYS SHE'LL JOIN US AFTER SHE CHECKS OUT TONY'S EVENT


SHE'LL HELP US OUT IN HER VERY OWN YUKATA
AND DONE. LOOKIN' SLICK!
DON'T LET THAT NEW LOOK GO TO WASTE! STRUT YOUR STUFF!
HIS FIRST ADULT YUKATA

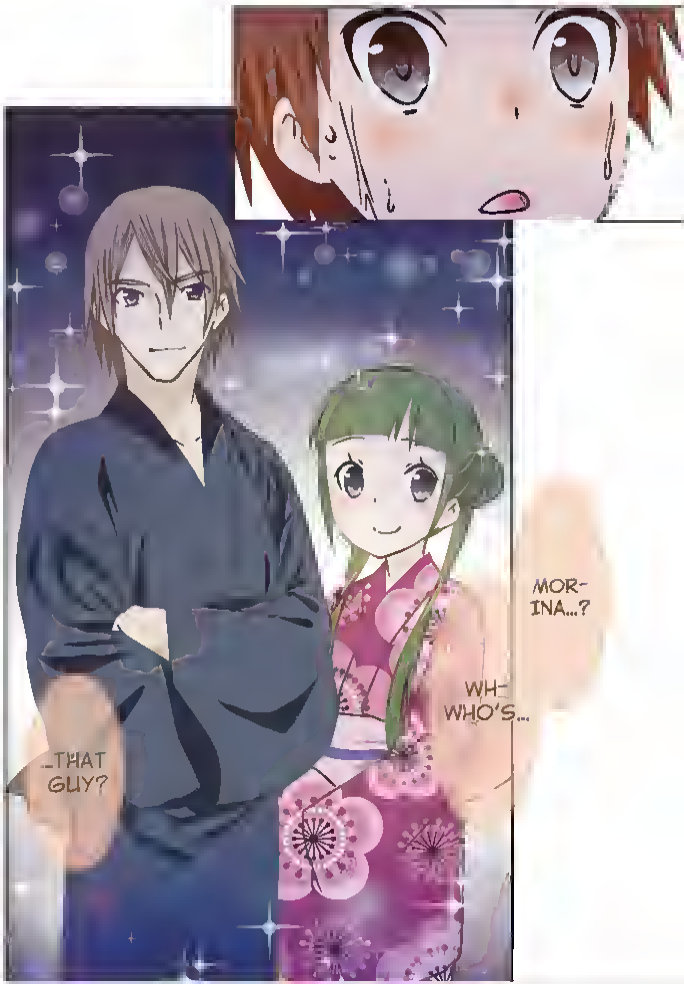

PRO-TIP- YUKATA HAVE NO BUTTONS, SO THEY'RE VERY EASY TO TAKE OFF, YA DIG?
I'M NOT YOU!

"FRITTERS" MEANS "FRIED"



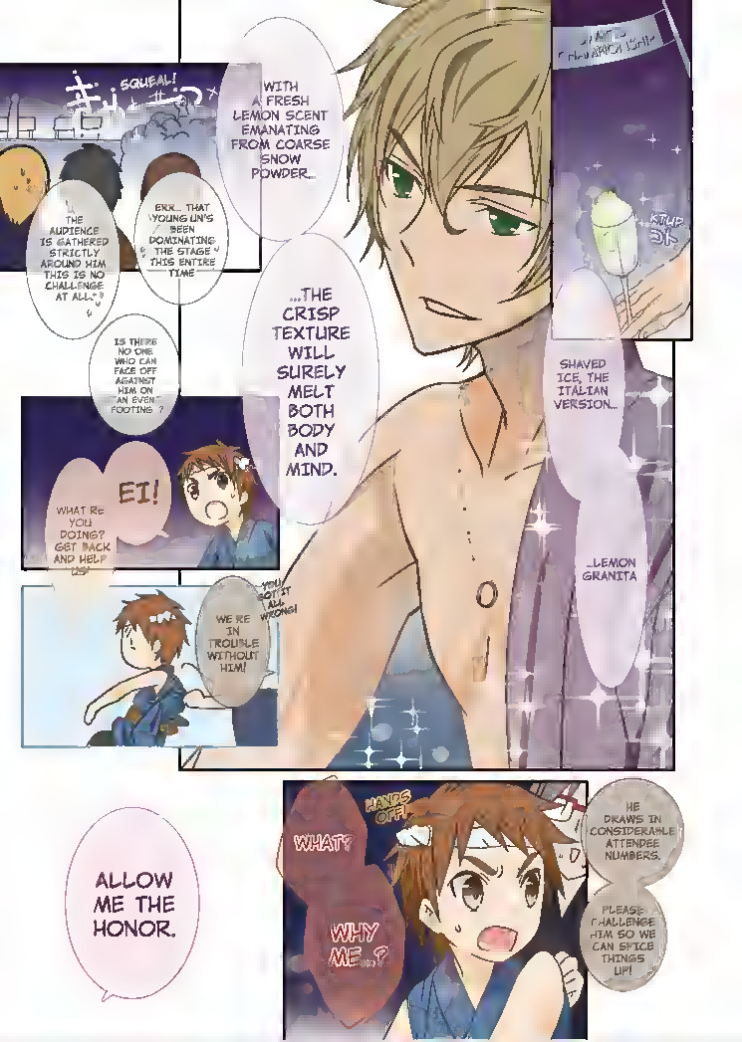

THIS RISOTTO SHINES GOLDEN WITH THE AIR OF MILAN.
Risotto alla
HERE'S YOUR RISOTTO ALLA MILANESE.
FISH SHELLFISH AND MYTILUS ARE ALL SIMMERED THOROUGHLY IN TOMATOES AND WHITE WINE!
THE SCENT OF SAFFRON WILL SURELY WHET YOUR APPETITE! THE PERFECT COMPANION DISH TO YOUR ZUPPA DI PESCE!
SPRINKLE ON SOME PARMIGIANO CHEESE FOR A FULLER, DEEPER FLAVOR!
mala nese
FOR THOSE WHO WANT A LIGHT SNACK ON THE SIDE, HAVE SOME SPAGHETTI STICKS
THERE'S NOTHING MORE EXQUISITE THAN A TOMATO SOUP INFUSED WITH THE FLAVORS OF THE SEA!
Zuppa di pesce


SCRUFFLE
SHUFFLE
すさささっ
WAUGH! MORINA?!
STAY AWAY FROM ME! I SMELL ALL-I
BASH
MALLOW-SAN!
IT'S SMELLERING!
WHAT KIND OF RAINING IS IT? COOKING STEWS ON A SUMMER ROAD?


MOR-
INA...?
WH-
WHO'S...
-THAT
GUY?

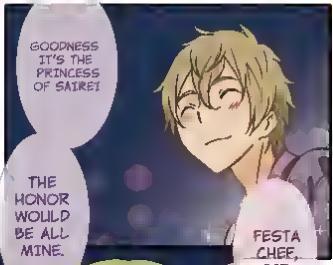

OHMIGOD NOWAY NOWAY NOWAY
Mr. MORINA..? WHO'S..
THAT GUY?
YOU KNOW HIM ALREADY!
SHA
ZAMM
MALLOW-SAN, GOOD EVENING!
THE YUKATA LOOKS REALLY GOOD ON YOU
41. GRANITA ~SHERBET~


I HEARD THAT I LOOK BETTER WITH MY GLASSES OFF...
KEEP THEM ON!
HAVE YOU READ MY LETTER, LITTLE MAN FESTA?
IT IS I, THAT FOOD CONNOISSEUR, RIGA TONY!
CONGRATS ON MY REAPPEARANCE! NOT MY FOES NOT MY HERO
IT'S THAT JUDGE FROM BEFORE!
HE SPOTTED ME DURING HIS EVENT...
AND HE TAGGED ALONG.
WHAT'RE YOU AFTER?!
DEATH TO THOSE WHO WALK WITH MORINA!
EIIIIII!
WHERE THE HELL DID YOU GO?!
ALL OF FESTA'S CHEFS ARE RIGHT HERE, AT THIS FOOD STALL-
YOU'VE GOT IT ALL WRONG
SEE, I BELIEVE ONE OF FESTA'S CHEFS...
IS DOMINATING ALL THE MATCHES BY HIMSELF.
4
3
2
1

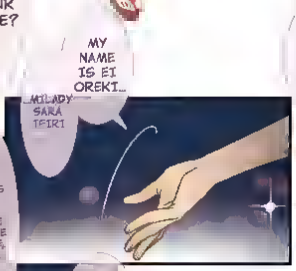

SQUEAL!
THE AUDIENCE IS GATHERED STRICTLY AROUND HIM THIS IS NO CHALLENGE AT ALL.
EKK... THAT YOUNG LIN'S BEEN DOMINATING THE STAGE THIS ENTIRE TIME
IS THERE NO ONE WHO CAN FACE OFF AGAINST HIM ON AN EVEN FOOTING ?
EI!
WHAT RE YOU DOING? GET BACK AND HELP (2P)
WE'RE IN TROUBLE WITHOUT HIM!
YOU GOT IT ALL WRONG!
WITH A FRESH LEMON SCENT EMANATING FROM COARSE SNOW POWDER...
...THE CRISP TEXTURE WILL SURELY MELT BOTH BODY AND MIND.
SHAVED ICE, THE ITALIAN VERSION...
...LEMON GRANITA
ALLOW ME THE HONOR.
HANDS OFF!
WHAT?
WHY ME...?
HE DRAWS IN CONSIDERABLE ATTENDEE NUMBERS.
PLEASE CHALLENGE HIM SO WE CAN SPICE THINGS UP!

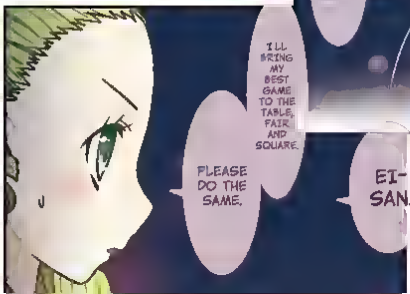

I NOTICED THERE'S SOMETHING GOING ON FROM AFAR.
MURMUR
ざわ
PLEASE ALLOW ME... TO COMPETE AGAINST HIM
I'VE ASKED MY GRANDFATHER TO BUY SOME SHOPPING FOR ME.
OH, NO IT'S JUST...
GRANDFATHER, I WANT TO EAT SOME TAKOYAKI, GRILLED SQUID, GRILLED SHRIMP, GRILLED SHARK, AND GRILLED WHALE.
SARA?!


SHIT
SARA-CHAN..! ARE YOU ALONE?

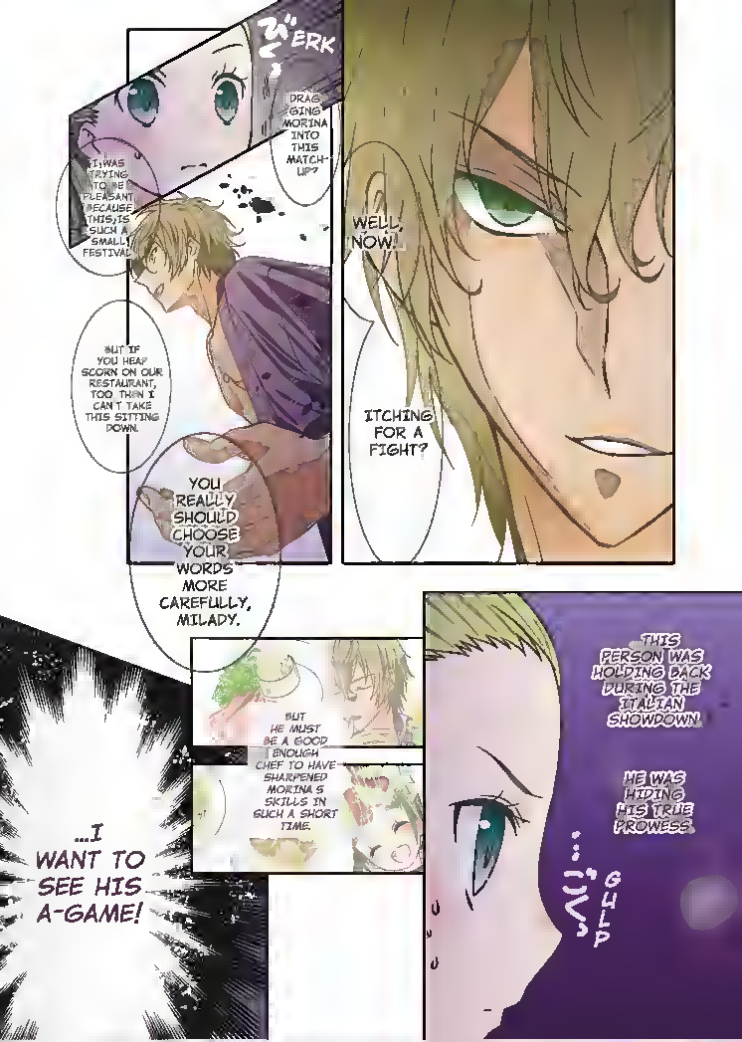

GOODNESS IT'S THE PRINCESS OF SAIRE!
THE HONOR WOULD BE ALL MINE.

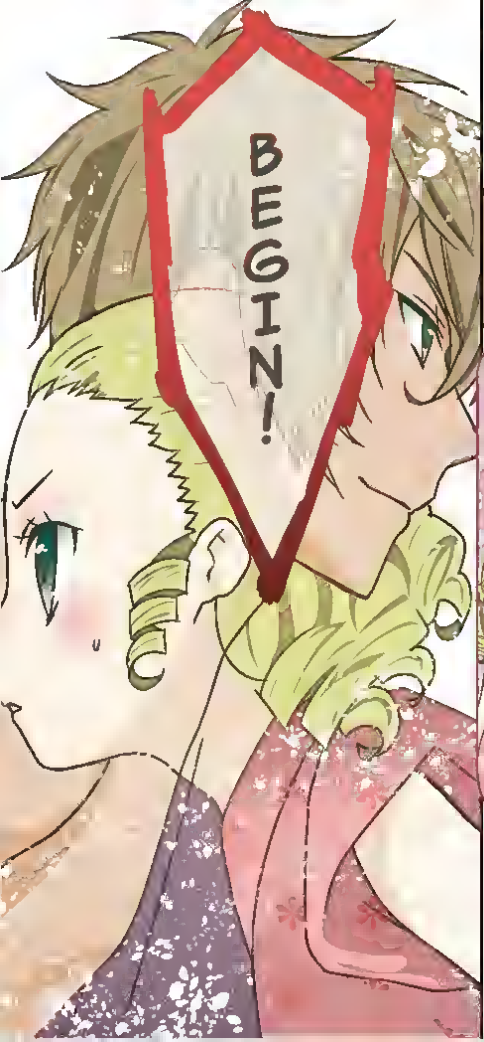

FESTA CHEE, SIR.
MAY I HAVE YOUR NAME?

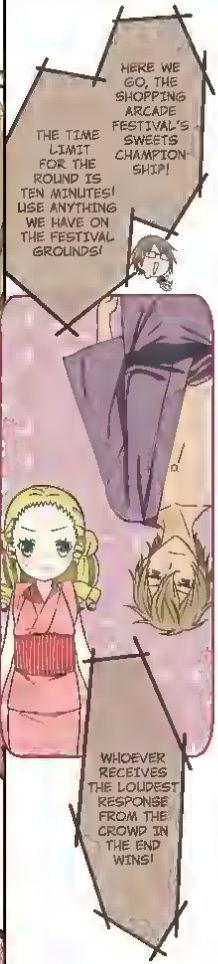

HOW RUDE OF ME!
MY NAME IS EI OREKI...
MILADY SARA FEIRI

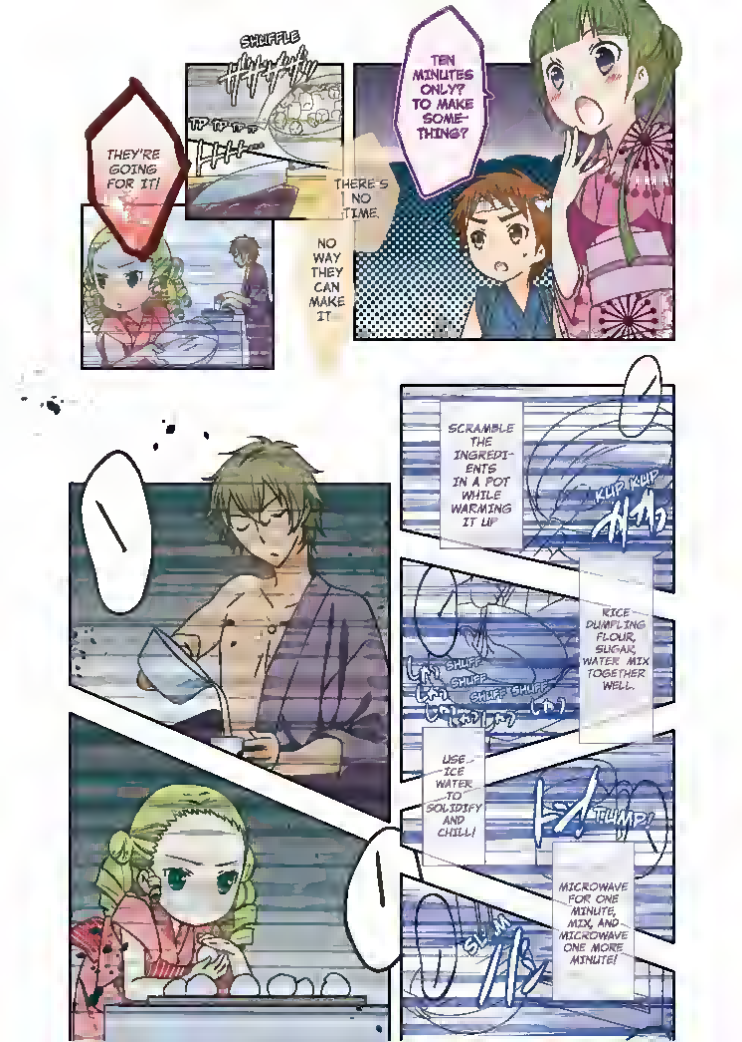

I'LL BRING MY BEST GAME TO THE TABLE, FAIR AND SQUARE.
PLEASE DO THE SAME.
EI-SAN.


IT SEEMS YOU'RE ONE OF FESTA'S POSTER BOYS
I'LL DO JUST THAT
I HEARD THAT YOU TAUGHT MORINA HER COOKING, EI-SAN
BUT YOU MAKE ME QUITE NERVOUS. I'M NOT SURE IF I CAN PULL THIS
IF YOU LOST TO A CHILD LIKE ME, AT A LOCAL FESTIVAL LIKE THIS...
...THEN FESTA'S NOTHING TO WRITE HOME ABOUT.
MORINA WOULDN'T BE MUCH OF A CHEF, EITHER, IF SHE INHERITED YOUR TECHNIQUE.

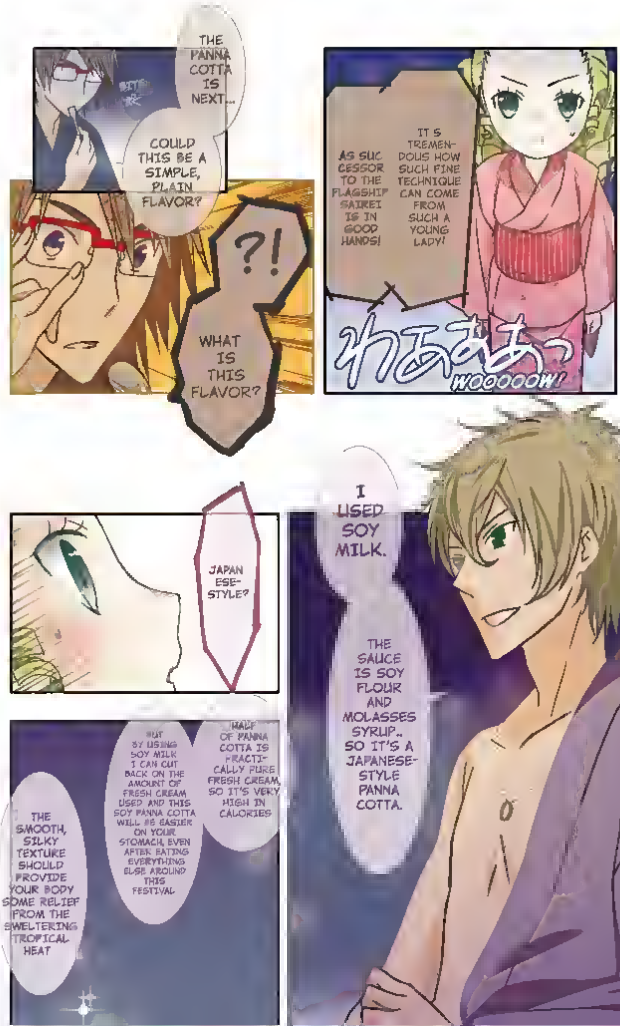

ERK
DRAGGING MORINA INTO THIS MATCH-UP?
I WAS TRYING TO BE PLEASANT BECAUSE THIS IS SUCH A SMALL FESTIVAL.
BUT IF YOU HEAP SCORN ON OUR RESTAURANT, TOO THEN I CAN'T TAKE THIS SITTING DOWN.
YOU REALLY SHOULD CHOOSE YOUR WORDS MORE CAREFULLY, MILADY.
WELL, NOW!
ITCHING FOR A FIGHT?
BUT HE MUST BE A GOOD ENOUGH CHEF TO HAVE SHARPENED MORINA'S SKILLS IN SUCH A SHORT TIME.
...I WANT TO SEE HIS A-GAME!
THIS PERSON WAS HOLDING BACK DURING THE ITALIAN SHOWDOWN.
HE WAS HIDING HIS TRUE PROWESS.
GULP

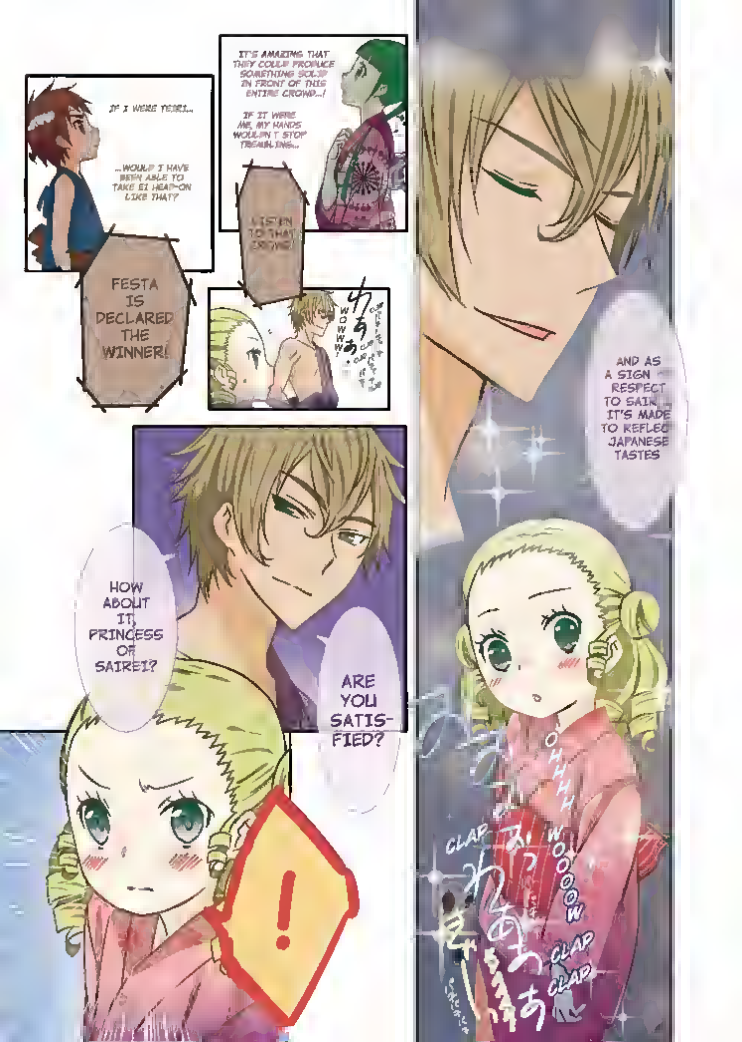

BEGIN!


HERE WE GO, THE SHOPPING ARCADE FESTIVAL'S SWEETS CHAMPIONSHIP!
THE TIME LIMIT FOR THE ROUND IS TEN MINUTES! USE ANYTHING WE HAVE ON THE FESTIVAL GROUNDS!
WHOEVER RECEIVES THE LOUDEST RESPONSE FROM THE CROWD IN THE END WINS!

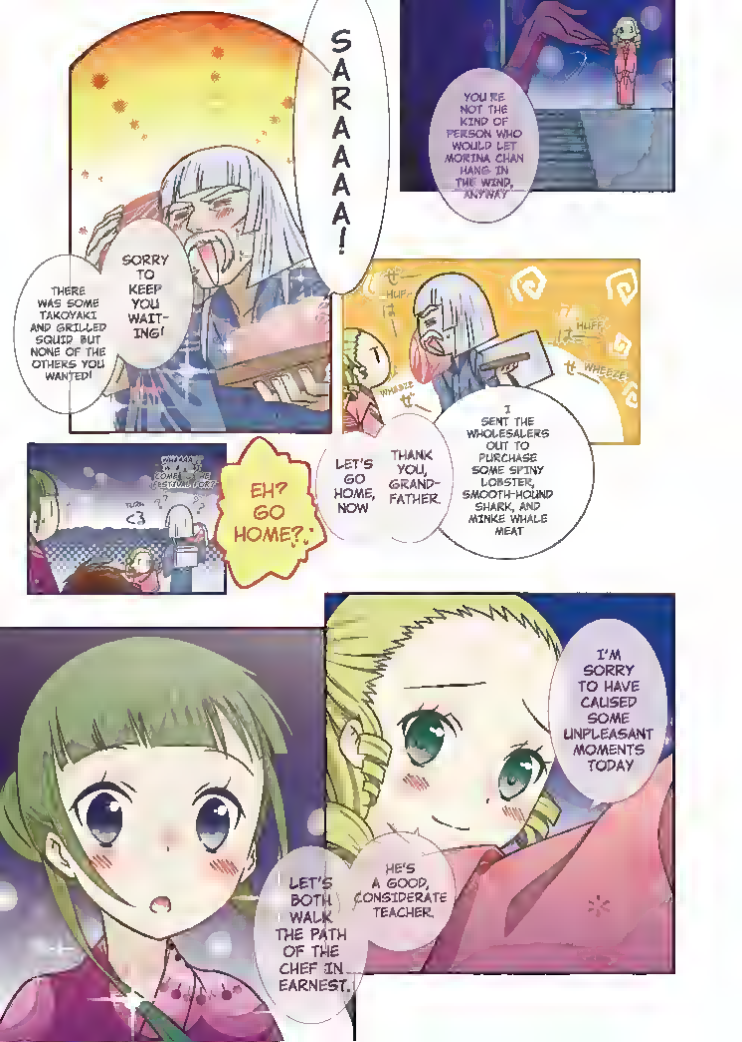

SHUFFLE
TEN MINUTES ONLY? TO MAKE SOMETHING?
THERE'S NO TIME.
NO WAY THEY CAN MAKE IT
THEY'RE GOING FOR IT!
SCRAMBLE THE INGREDIENTS IN A POT WHILE WARMING IT UP
KLUP KLUP
RICE DUMPLING FLOUR, SUGAR, WATER MIX TOGETHER WELL.
SHUFF
SHUFF
SHUFF
SHUFF
USE ICE WATER TO SOLIDIFY AND CHILL!
THUMP!
MICROWAVE FOR ONE MINUTE, MIX, AND MICROWAVE ONE MORE MINUTE!

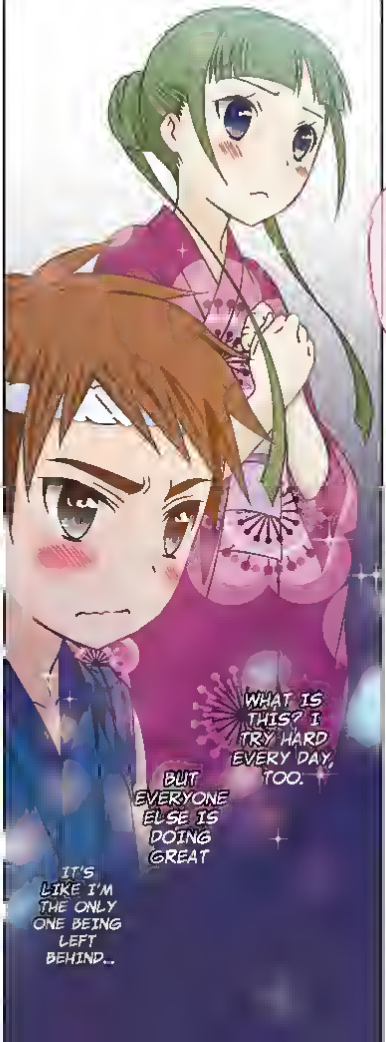

Ti CHING Fu
WE'RE DONE!
A WESTERN SWEET FROM ITALY, PANNA COTTA.
OHHH
HOLY COW
WOW
FRUITY MANGO DAIFUKU-MOCHI, PERFECT FOR SUMMER
OOOOH
LOOKS GREAT!
OH MY!
THIS GENUINE FLAVOR BELIES THE FACT THAT THIS WAS MADE IN JUST TEN MINUTES!
SO SPRINGY AND FLUFFY!
BOTH LOOK DELICIOUS!
STELLAR!
I'VE NEVER BEEN GOOD AT HANDLE THINGS LIKE THAT BEFORE.
THEY BOTH DID IT—!


THE PANNA COTTA IS NEXT...
COULD THIS BE A SIMPLE, PLAIN FLAVOR?
?!
WHAT IS THIS FLAVOR?
AS SUCCESSOR TO THE FLAGSHIP SAIREI IS IN GOOD HANDS!
IT'S TREMENDOUS HOW SUCH FINE TECHNIQUE CAN COME FROM SUCH A YOUNG LADY!
WOOOOOW!
JAPANESE-STYLE?
I USED SOY MILK.
THE SAUCE IS SOY FLOUR AND MOLASSES SYRUP.. SO IT'S A JAPANESE-STYLE PANNA COTTA.
HALF OF PANNA COTTA IS PRACTICALLY PURE FRESH CREAM, SO IT'S VERY HIGH IN CALORIES
BUT BY USING SOY MILK I CAN CUT BACK ON THE AMOUNT OF FRESH CREAM USED AND THIS SOY PANNA COTTA WILL BE EASIER ON YOUR STOMACH, EVEN AFTER EATING EVERYTHING ELSE AROUND THIS FESTIVAL
THE SMOOTH, SILKY TEXTURE SHOULD PROVIDE YOUR BODY SOME RELIEF FROM THE SWELTERING TROPICAL HEAT

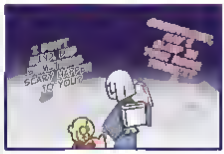

IF I WERE THERE...
...WOULD I HAVE BEEN ABLE TO TAKE EI HEAD-ON LIKE THAT?
IT'S AMAZING THAT THEY COULD PRODUCE SOMETHING SOLID IN FRONT OF THIS ENTIRE CROWD...!
IF IT WERE ME, MY HANDS WOULDN'T STOP TREMBLING...
LISTEN TO THAT CROWD!
FESTA IS DECLARED THE WINNER!
WOWWW
AND AS A SIGN RESPECT TO SAIR... IT'S MADE TO REFLEC JAPANESE TASTES
OHHH
WOOOOW
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
HOW ABOUT IT, PRINCESS OF SAIREI?
ARE YOU SATIS-FIED?
!


I KNOW HOW SERIOUSLY YOU REGARD ALL COOKING
I'M NOT ACTUALLY ANGRY OR ANYTHING
BUT IF YOU BAD-MOUTH FESTA, NEXT TIME...
...THE KIDDIE GLOVES ARE OFF
WAIT!
WHY DIDN'T YOU TEACH MORINA HOW TO MAKE DOLCE...
...FOR THE ITALIAN SHOW-DOWN?
IF I TAUGHT MORINA-CHAN THE BASICS OF ITALIAN COOK-ING...
...I FIGURED SOMEONE IN PARTIC-ULAR WOULD BE HAPPY ABOUT THAT


SARAAAA!
SORRY TO KEEP YOU WAITING!
THERE WAS SOME TAKOYAKI AND GRILLED SQUID BUT NONE OF THE OTHERS YOU WANTED!
YOU'RE NOT THE KIND OF PERSON WHO WOULD LET MORINA CHAN HANG IN THE WIND, ANYWAY
HUFF
HUFF
WHEEZE
WHEEZE
I SENT THE WHOLESALERS OUT TO PURCHASE SOME SPINY LOBSTER, SMOOTH-HOUND SHARK, AND MINKE WHALE MEAT
THANK YOU, GRAND-FATHER
LET'S GO HOME, NOW
EH? GO HOME?
I'M SORRY TO HAVE CAUSED SOME UNPLEASANT MOMENTS TODAY
HE'S A GOOD, CONSIDERATE TEACHER.
LET'S BOTH WALK THE PATH OF THE CHEF IN EARNEST.

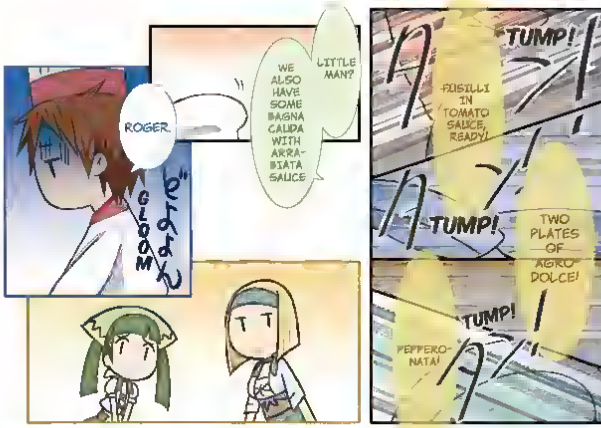






THE STRENGTH TO FACE OFF AGAINST COUNTLESS UNKNOWNS

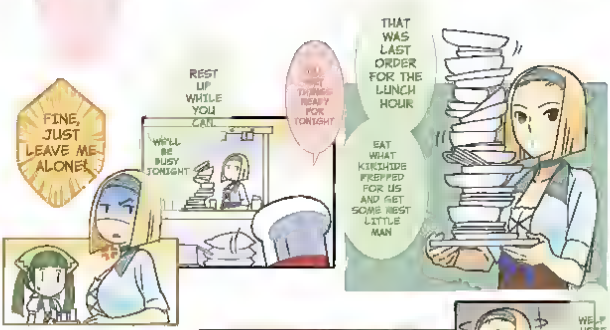
THE STRENGTH TO BELIEVE IN YOURSELF, NO MATTER WHO'S AGAINST YOU.





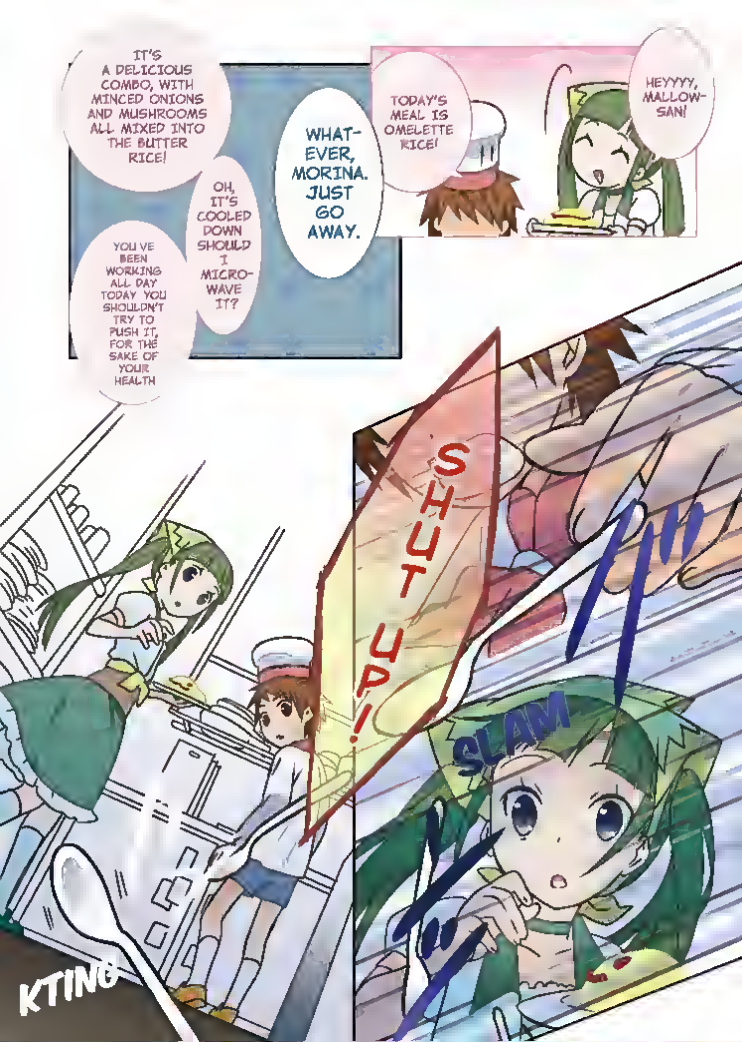
43. PANNA COTTA ~FRESH CREAM PUDDING~


YES...
...COM-
PLETELY.


FINE, JUST LEAVE ME ALONE!
REST UP WHILE YOU CAN.
I'LL BE BUSY TONIGHT
I'LL PREP THINGS READY FOR TONIGHT
THAT WAS LAST ORDER FOR THE LUNCH HOUR
EAT WHAT KIKUHIDE PREPPED FOR US AND GET SOME REST LITTLE MAN


MALLOW-SAN...
WELP HERE COMES THE BRATTY ART AGAIN
HE'LL REST ONCE HE'S TIRED, ANYWAY
TIME TO GO HOME


MALLOW
I THOUGHT WE COULD SHOOT OFF SOME FIREWORKS BEFORE THE DINNER SHIFT STARTS
I'M GOOD.
DEPRESSED
OKAY...
KCHLIK
KTLIP
KTLIP
CHOP
CHOP
TODAY'S STAFF MEAL – BUTTER AND OMELETTE RICE.


HEYYYY, MALLOW-SAN!
TODAY'S MEAL IS OMELETTE RICE!
WHAT-EVER, MORINA. JUST GO AWAY.
OH, IT'S COOLED DOWN SHOULD I MICRO-WAVE IT?
YOU'VE BEEN WORKING ALL DAY TODAY. YOU SHOULDN'T TRY TO PUSH IT, FOR THE SAKE OF YOUR HEALTH
IT'S A DELICIOUS COMBO, WITH MINCED ONIONS AND MUSHROOMS ALL MIXED INTO THE BUTTER RICE!
SHUT UP!
SLAM
KTING


ぎゅっ
ぎゅっ…
…JUST LEAVE ME ALONE, ALL RIGHT?
YOU GUYS DON'T NEED ME AROUND
OR WHAT? DID YOU COME TO LAUGH AT ME?
BECAUSE I CAN'T DO THINGS LIKE EI OR TEIRI CAN, EVEN IF I TRIED?
MUST BE GREAT TO BE TRAINED BY EI, HUH, MORINA?
I'LL MAKE IT ON MY OWN! SO LEAVE ME ALONE!



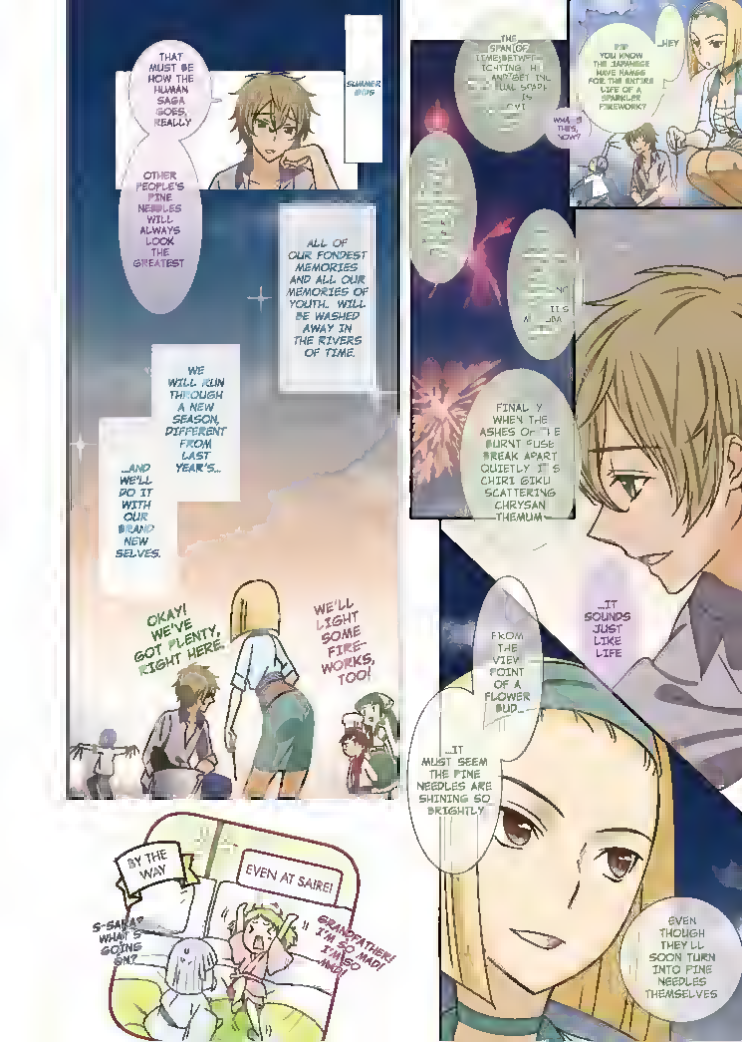
IS IT SO FUNNY THAT I SAID I'LL BECOME A CHEF, EVEN WITH MY SHODDY SKILLS? PATHETIC EVEN?

I'M JEALOUS OF HOW YOU'RE LIVING YOUR LIFE STRAIGHT AND TRUE, UNLIKE A DRIFTER LIKE ME!

THE WAY I SEE IT, YOU'RE STILL SHINING OUT THERE.

..THEN WHAT? ARE YOU ASHAMED OF ME?


I'M CHASING AFTER YOU FROM BEHIND!
I KNOW EI-SAN AND SARA-CHAN WERE AMAZING AT THE FESTIVAL
BUT WHY DOES THAT SUDDENLY MEAN THAT YOU'RE NO GOOD?
WHY WOULD YOU LOOK DOWN ON YOUR-SELF?
SO DON'T COMPARE YOURSELF TO OTHERS, THEN SUDDENLY DECIDE YOU'RE NO GOOD!
LOOK UP AND KEEP RUNNING!


THAT MUST BE HOW THE HUMAN SAGA GOES, REALLY.
SUMMER ENDS
OTHER PEOPLE'S PINE NEEDLES WILL ALWAYS LOOK THE GREATEST
ALL OF OUR FONDEST MEMORIES AND ALL OUR MEMORIES OF YOUTH, WILL BE WASHED AWAY IN THE RIVERS OF TIME.
WE WILL RUN THROUGH A NEW SEASON, DIFFERENT FROM LAST YEAR'S...
...AND WE'LL DO IT WITH OUR BRAND NEW SELVES.
OKAY! WE'VE GOT PLENTY, RIGHT HERE.
WE'LL LIGHT SOME FIRE-WORKS, TOO!
THE SPAN OF TIME BETWEEN LIGHTING A FIRE AND GET TING TO THE FINAL SPARK IS CALLED
FOR YOU KNOW THE JAPANESE HAVE NAMES FOR THE ENTIRE LIFE OF A SPARKLER FIREWORKS?
HEY
WHAT'S THIS, YOU?
IT'S MINE
FINALLY WHEN THE ASHES OF THE BURNT FUSE BREAK APART QUIETLY IT'S CHIRI GIKU SCATTERING CHRYSANTHEMUM
...IT SOUNDS JUST LIKE LIFE
FROM THE VIEW POINT OF A FLOWER BUD...
...IT MUST SEEM THE PINE NEEDLES ARE SHINING SO BRIGHTLY
EVEN THOUGH THEY'LL SOON TURN INTO PINE NEEDLES THEMSELVES
BY THE WAY
EVEN AT SAIKI!
S-SAKA? WHAT'S GOING ON?
GRANDFATHER! I'M SO MAD!